

NLM Staffing

It is imperative that NLM obtain additional FTEs.

The number of FTEs available to carry out the Library's programs has declined steadily over the years and currently is thirty-five below the 1984 level. This combined with the new biotechnology information initiative finds NLM some sixty-five positions below its staffing needs. Nevertheless, NLM staff have performed superbly in accomplishing the Library's national service and research goals, often doing more with less. That trend cannot continue unchecked as demand for NLM basic services continues to grow at a rapid pace. This report recommends significant additional responsibilities and funding for the NLM. It is imperative that NLM obtain additional FTEs if it is to implement effectively the recommendations of this report. Contracting out work can be of some assistance in the service and R&D environment, but fulfilling the additional responsibilities and opportunities identified in this Outreach Plan will require a modest expansion of core NLM staff.

NLM should seek increased staffing levels. These additional FTEs will provide the minimum level of staff support necessary to undertake recommended initiatives as specified. Seventeen FTEs are required in FY 1990 to provide staffing for implementation of this plan's recommendations for improved access in the four specific areas described. This number of FTEs represents the total of those additional personnel that are specified for each of the major recommendations, and does not take into account the other obligations of NLM not reviewed at this time. Specifically, it does not include additional FTEs required for the Congressionally mandated National Center for Biotechnology Information and those needed to respond to the increasing volume of literature and service requests.

Additional NLM Staff Required for New Outreach Activities

Full Time Equivalents (FTEs)

	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94
Strengthening RMLs	3	3	3	3	3
Strengthening Hospital Access to National Sources	3	3	3	3	3
Training/Fellowships/Demonstration	1	1	1	1	1
Intramural R&D	10	11	12	13	13
Total FTEs	17	18	19	20	20